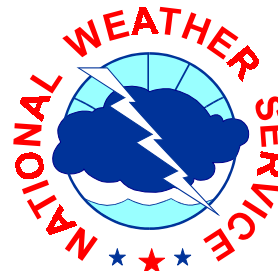


**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
WESTERN REGION  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**



**OCTOBER 30, 2001**

**REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

On October 25, 2001, the National Weather Service lost a true leader when Dick Hagemeyer passed away so suddenly. As the Pacific Region Director, he was a proud mentor for many who serve our Nation as public servants. He was a pioneer in NOAA, a visionary for the future, and a friend to the Western Region. Various articles have been written about him in the past few days and are available on the Web at:

<http://205.156.54.206/com/hagemeyer.htm>

In the hearts of all who knew him, his memory lives.

**DEPUTY REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

**Third Office with Circadian Lighting:** Circadian Lighting was added to a third office in Western Region. Glasgow, Montana just recently activated their lights. It took a while to get the lights up and running because on two occasions equipment shipped to Glasgow was damaged in transit. Another benefit of the lights, besides keeping people more alert at night, is that it also helps the office feel warmer in the early morning hours of the mid-shift. The Circadian lights will finally get into an office in another region. The new office in Tallahassee, Florida will have the lights built in during construction.

**METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION**

**STATEMENT OF THE WEEK:** This week's statement of the week is an outlook statement issued by WFO Los Angeles and was written by Tim McClung with help from student assistants Kurt Kaplan and John Gorman. Many WR WFOs in the southwest part of the region did an excellent job forecasting the first significant storm of the fall season during the end of October. The following statement added a unique touch by including information regarding the prolonged dry spell which preceded the onset of precipitation. Good work WFO Los Angeles.

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SPSLAX

November 1, 2001

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SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LOS ANGELES/OXNARD  
200 PM PDT MON OCT 29 2001

...FIRST SIGNIFICANT RAIN OF THE SEASON HEADED FOR THE SOUTHLAND...

...LONG DRY PERIOD TO END WITH SEASONS FIRST STORM...

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAN EXPECT THE SEASONS FIRST WINTER STORM TO ARRIVE LATE TONIGHT AND TUESDAY. RAIN WILL LIKELY BEGIN ACROSS SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY LATE TONIGHT AND SPREAD SOUTH THROUGHOUT TUESDAY...REACHING THE LOS ANGELES BASIN BY LATE TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

THIS SYSTEM WILL MOVE QUICKLY THROUGH THE AREA...WITH MOST AREAS RECEIVING A THREE TO SIX HOUR PERIOD OF RAIN OR SHOWERS. RAINFALL TOTALS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE EXCESSIVE. AT THIS TIME AS MUCH AS A HALF INCH OF RAIN IS EXPECTED TO FALL ACROSS SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY...WITH AMOUNTS AROUND A QUARTER INCH EXPECTED TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING ACROSS THE LOS ANGELES BASIN.

SINCE THIS WILL BE THE FIRST RAIN OF THE SEASON...ROAD SURFACES COULD BE SLICK DUE TO THE COMBINATION OF RAIN...OIL AND DIRT. STAY TUNED TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO...OR YOUR FAVORITE NEWS SOURCE FOR THE LATEST FORECASTS AND UPDATES OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.NWSLA.NOAA.GOV](http://WWW.NWSLA.NOAA.GOV).

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...THE FOLLOWING LISTS THE LAST RECORDED MEASURABLE RAINFALL (0.01 INCH OR GREATER) FOR SEVERAL SOUTHLAND SITES...AS PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL CLIMATE DATA CENTER...

|                 | <u>LAST RAIN DAY</u> | <u>CONSECUTIVE<br/>RAIN-FREE DAYS</u>          |
|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| L.A. (USC)      | 4/21/01              | 5TH LONGEST PERIOD WITHOUT RAIN<br>SINCE 1921. |
| VENTURA         | 7/6/01               | NO SUBSTANTIAL RECORD                          |
| SANTA BARBARA   | 5/26/01              | 7TH LONGEST PERIOD WITHOUT RAIN<br>SINCE 1931. |
| SAN LUIS OBISPO | 4/21/01              | 2ND LONGEST PERIOD WITHOUT RAIN<br>SINCE 1894. |

MCCLUNG/KAPLAN/GORMAN

**SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION**

**Reminder-COMET Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) Module:** With the winter season coming and NWS offices preparing winter training activities, offices need to be reminded of the COMET NWP on-line module. The on-line Web course can be found at:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/nwp/course>

Forecasters can improve their forecasts by making more intelligent use of NWP model guidance. Numerical models are changing and it is important that forecasters keep up with model improvements. The COMET Program has released a set of NWS-sponsored training modules on NWP fundamentals. These Web-based modules are now organized as an on-line, distance learning course with the goal of providing forecasters a better understanding of numerical model fundamentals.

In completing the NWP Distance Learning Course, you can either choose to go through each element of each module (recommended for interns or others unfamiliar with NWP or those highly interested in the topic), or you may choose to go through the minimum path required for each module. The minimum path has been defined, with guidance from NWS personnel, as the core material experienced forecasters will find most beneficial in refreshing their understanding of NWP. The minimum required sections and pages are highlighted within each of the modules.

Upon completing the course, you will be asked to take a short on-line exam based on the example questions in the course modules. Successful (75 percent passing score) participants will be issued a certificate, and an email will be sent to the local SOO or MIC.

The modules build upon information presented in the previous modules. We recommend you complete the modules in a short time frame, within 2-4 weeks, if possible. However, because the modules can be demanding, do not try to take more than one module per day. The total time to complete the course will likely fall between 10 and 16 hours.

The on-line course is recommended for all forecasters as part of their professional development and training activities. This includes all Forecast Office meteorologists and interns, CWSU meteorologists, and the River Forecast Center HAS positions.

The on-line Web course can be found at:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/nwp/course>

The Operational Models Matrix, an information resource on current model configurations, can be found at:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/nwp/pcu2/index.htm>

**Final Announcement:** The Eighth Annual Workshop on Weather Prediction in the Intermountain West will be held on Friday, November 2, 2001, in the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah. The Web page includes the workshop schedule and can be found at:

<http://www.met.utah.edu/jhorel/cirp/workshop2001>

**NWP PDS:** The NWP case "How Good Data Can Lead to a Poor Model Analysis" was published to MetEd on October 3, 2001. There is a new link to the NWP case page from the MetEd "Web-based Modules" page that is called "Applications of NWP Concepts." There are two new cases that have been reviewed internally and are undergoing final corrections before being moved to the MetEd Web site. They are "How Different Data Types Impact the Eta Analysis and Forecast" and "Climatology of Forecast and Observed Precipitation." A conference call with Bill Stephen and various NCEP folks was conducted on September 26, 2001, regarding the development of NWP ensemble training. AWIPS 5.2.2 is due in September 2002 and will include ensemble model data. Bill Bua will work with Ralph Peterson, Steve Tracton, Stephen Jascourt, and Zoltan Toth to "story board" the content of the ensemble training materials.

The following NWP training cases have been published: How Good Data Can Lead to a Poor Model Analysis: An example of limitations in detecting and analyzing mesoscale phenomena in the Eta model, available at:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/nwp/pcu3/cases/etaanl/index.htm>

**Warning Event Simulator (WES):** Updated versions of AWIPS localizations for each National Weather Service WFO have been made available by COMET. These localizations will facilitate the development of local case studies at individual WFOs for playback in the WES. Localization files can be accessed from the web site:

<http://www.comet.ucar.edu/resources/cases/drt/localization/>

**Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) Resource Center (RC):** Peter Felsch has submitted a new version of the wind chill chart. It has been updated with colors to include the new thresholds of frostbite times of 30, 10, and 5 minutes. The chart has been made into card and handout formats for distribution to customers. To download these files, please refer to:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/resource/wcm/html/98.htm>

The latest additions to the WCM Resource Center may be found on:

[http://meted.ucar.edu/resource/wcm/new\\_on\\_rc.htm](http://meted.ucar.edu/resource/wcm/new_on_rc.htm)

**AWIPS Full Court Press:** The latest version of the AWIPS Full Court Press has updated information on the Release 5.1.1 Questionnaire, Maintenance Release 5.1.1.1, Release 5.1.2, Application Server Upgrades, and FTS Hardware De-installs. The AWIPS Full Court Press can be found at:

<http://is1715.nws.noaa.gov/add1/foa/telecon/>

## **SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DIVISION**

### **ASOS:**

Upcoming ASOS Commissionings: Baker (BKE), OR was commissioned at 18z October 25, 2001.

- Scottsdale (SDL), AZ was commissioned at 18z October 30, 2001.

Processor Upgrade: The processor upgrade will not be installed in any further ASOSs until version 2.6x is tested. 2.6x has the capability to communicate with the FAA communication system, ADAS. 2.6v that was installed in the first series of OT&E sites is not able to communicate with ADAS. However, version 2.6x was installed at York, PA on October 25, 2001, and will be installed at Vero Beach, FL for testing.

Communications Transfer: The Redding ASOS still is not communicating with the ADAS. The NWS to FAA communications cutover date is still November 11, 2001, but this date will probably get pushed back.

NWR Projects: USDA has approved 14 NWR Grants. Seven of them are for Western Region. Sedgewick Peak, ID, and Baker, MT, will be the first sites to be installed.